



Community Appearance Commission

Minutes April 2, 2008

The regular meeting of the Salisbury Community Appearance Commission was called to order Wednesday, April 2, 2008, at 4 p.m. by Barbara Perry, Chair, in the Council Chamber located at 217 South Main Street, Salisbury, North Carolina. The following members were present and absent:

Present: Connie Baker, Suzanne Casey, Greta Connor, Suzette Davis, Diane Gibbs, Sean Meyers, Barbara Perry, Sara Robinson, and Bill Safrit

Absent: Barbara Lawther and Tom Wolpert

Staff: Diana Moghrabi and Lynn Raker

The minutes of the March 5, 2008, meeting were approved. The financials will be approved next month. There has been a great deal of expenses depleting the funds on schedule.

There were greetings and introductions of the commission to Sean Meyers and Connie Baker who are newly appointed to the CAC.

Sean Meyers is a freelance photographer whose current installation at The Water Works Visual Arts Center is titled *The Faith Experience—Religions of the Piedmont*, which will continue until April 19. He and his wife, Beth Homan, live in the North Main area. Ms. Perry remarked that Sean had served effectively on the Public Art Committee's selection subcommittee for art at the Gateway Bridge.

Connie Baker is an artist whose husband creates sculptures—one of which is now standing at the corner plaza at Lee and Fisher Streets. Connie and Michael are living in their renovated portion of the old Flowers Bakery in Downtown Salisbury which they purchased in 2005. Connie is a native of Colorado and chose Salisbury for its location.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Barbara sent a list around for members to sign up for committees.

Neighborhoods & Education Committee

- Greta Connor stated that the Neighborhoods & Education Committee met March 27 at 3 o'clock in the first floor conference room at City Hall. The Neighborhood Leaders Alliance will meet April 24, at 4 p.m., at One Water Street. A "Spruce Up" flyer was included with an invitation to the NLA meeting. Those invitations have been mailed. The agenda has been set. All CAC members are invited to attend the meeting. Diana Moghrabi will provide refreshments.

The Neighborhood Leaders Alliance will explore Mark Lewis's request for a top ten list of the worst houses in the city. There was a discussion on how the process might work—Verbal warning, written warning and a series of fines is the standard procedure for zoning violations. Presenting photos of houses to Council was discussed.

Commercial buildings are not being discussed at this time. Downtown Salisbury, Inc. is working on the commercial building maintenance code.

Art in Public Places

- Lynn Raker submitted applications for several grants. She made a presentation of the proposed pocket park, "The Cotton Mill," at the Downtown Wachovia site. The Tree Board, CAC, and Public Art Committee have combined to apply for the NC Department of Natural Resources Urban and Community Forestry Grant for this project. The maximum amount that we can receive is around \$7,500. All together, this is about a \$90,000 project. Artist Ray Moose will assist with a student art project for the site.

Landscaping

- The Landscape of the Month (LOM) sign still needs to be picked up at the home of Clay Smith.
- Suzette would like more details and written record from property owners about the LOM awards. She plans to make a scrapbook of the LOM awards.
- Suzette Davis asked to look again at the house of Norde Wilson as a nomination for residential LOM. A citizen nominated a house at 304 Mitchell Avenue—the home of Gertrude Camps. Lynn Raker provided a photo of the property and all agreed that they should receive the LOM award for April 2008.
- Diane Gibbs nominated 1525 S. Jake Alexander Boulevard (First Bank), 1505 E. Innes Street (Walgreens) and 531 E. Innes (former Parks Property Management) for commercial LOM. Diane provided pictures and phone numbers. Walgreens at 1505 E. Innes Street is the April 2008 winner of the commercial LOM.

Grants

There will be a meeting about the grant guidelines April 3 at noon in the first floor conference room. Diane Gibbs, Bill Safrit, Johnny Safrit, Barbara Perry and Barbara Lawther will serve on the review committee.

Money previously allocated to the Davis Law Office is available for distribution. Lynn Raker notified people on the waiting list. There are three applicants: OK Wigs, Johnny Robinson, and Arba Knapp (102 N. Main Street).

NEW BUSINESS

- It was reported that a very deep pothole is located near 11th and N. Long Streets.
- The Historic Preservation Grant Committee will include Diane Gibbs and Sean Meyers as representatives of the CAC.
- Sean Meyers would like to receive notifications via email.
- Carol Palmer reported that the loading dock on Church Street (Salisbury Post) was an eyesore because of trash blowing everywhere.
- The NCDOT property on East Innes Street (across from Kinkos) has become a dumping site.
- The Landscape Committee will meet at 3:30 May 7.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Tom Wolpert expressed his concerns about the curbing and sidewalk around the First Baptist Church. People are parking and driving on and over sidewalks crushing them (sidewalks and curbing). Lynn Raker took pictures and sent an email to Steve Weatherford of the City Streets Division, as well as to City staff members Mark Martin and Tony Cinquemani. They will look at this self-made driveway, the damaged storm drain, etc.
- The 2008 CAC Awards was very successful.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next regular CAC meeting will be May 7, 2008.